ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2012 CHIGNIK AREA STATE-WATERS PACIFIC COD JIG SEASON OPENING

The state-waters Pacific cod season for vessels using jig gear will open in the Chignik Area on March 15 at 12:00 midnight. The Western Gulf of Alaska (WGOA) parallel jig season that overlaps with the Chignik Area (WGOA state waters east of Kupreanof Point) will close March 14 at 11:59 p.m. For vessels participating in the Western Gulf of Alaska parallel Pacific cod jig fishery east of Kupreanof Point, all Pacific cod must be delivered prior to participating in the Chignik Area state-waters season.

Jig vessels may not operate more than 5 mechanical jig machines with no more than 30 hooks per line. Jig vessels are allocated 10 percent of the total Chignik Area GHL or 1.10 million pounds.

All vessels participating in the Chignik Area state-waters Pacific cod season may not exceed 58 feet in overall length. Vessel operators must obtain a miscellaneous finfish interim-use jig permit card from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission and a superexlcusive state-waters vessel registration from ADF&G prior to participating in the state-waters season. Registrations are available at ADF&G offices in Kodiak and Dutch Harbor, Trident Seafoods in Sand Point, and the City Office in Chignik.

As a reminder, vessels may not participate in a state-waters Pacific cod season and any other Pacific cod season at the same time. Vessels registered for the state-waters season must invalidate their state-waters registration before that vessel may participate in any other Pacific cod season.

For more information, contact the Alaska Department of Fish & Game in Kodiak at 486-1840.